(c) whether Government propose to augment infrastructural facilities in major temple towns of the country which attract large number of foreign tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) An estimated 2.38 million, 2.72 million and 3.37 million foreign tourists arrived in India during the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively.

(b) Foreign exchange earnings from tourism, as estimated for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 are US$ 2923 Million, 3533 Million and 4810 Million respectively.

(c) and (d) Development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of State Governments concerned. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments for development of infrastructure in places of tourist interests in the States based on *inter-se* priority and in discussions held with them every year under the schemes run by the Ministry.

Development of tourist spots in UP and North-Eastern region

3018. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG:
PROF. M.M. AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new places and areas have been identified by Government for the development of tourist areas in Uttar Pradesh and North-Eastern States during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the budget allocation; and

(c) the details of the projects formulated by the Central Government for the development of these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned several projects for infrastructure development of tourist areas/destinations in consultation with the State Governments of Uttar

Pradesh and North-Eastern States during the current financial year. The details are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	No. of projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in crore)	Amount released (Rs. in crore)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	11	24.56	19.64
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	14.02	9.85
3.	Assam	7	20.77	16.43
4.	Manipur	-	-	-
5.	Meghalaya	1	0.05	0.04
6.	Mizoram	6	14.69	10.47
7.	Nagaland	7	13.34	9.17
8.	Sikkim	10	9.93	6.89
9.	Tripura	3	7.16	5.69

Development of crop tourism

3019. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Kerala proposes to develop crop tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this will increase tourist arrivals, rejuvenate agricultural sector through additional increase in sale and value of farm produce and generate employment opportunities; and

(d) whether such a project is also proposed to be launched in other regions including Orissa, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Ministry of Tourism has not received any scheme from Government of Kerala on crop tourism.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.